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## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Although the development of PM-2.5 emissions inventories will represent a new planning activity for States, there is a considerable amount of information available to begin gathering basic information on the sources of PM-2.5. EPA is currently working to bring the available information and inventory development tools together to make them more accessible to States. Some of these tools and data sources are currently national in scope and may not represent sufficient detail for all local planning applications. These information sources do, however, provide a firm basis upon which future National and State planning efforts will build. The future activities associated with PM-2.5 emissions inventories will expand the current base of information and tools to regional and local levels. The task ahead is challenging, and will be facilitated by coordinated efforts involving the EPA and States. Many of these sources of information and information that is readily available from Internet sites will be included on the PM-2.5 Inventory Resource Center that can be accessed from the PM-2.5 EIIP Internet webpage or at the Internet address provided below.

<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/eiip/pm25inventory/>

The regional nature of PM-2.5 will require the development of regional approaches, combined with appropriate local control measures. It is recognized that mandated National-level planning and control activities will not always provide the most efficient solutions for all States. States are encouraged to form regional planning organizations and to use existing organizations like Western States Air Resources (WESTAR) and North East States Consortium for Air Use Management (NESCAUM) to collectively address some of these regionally specific problems. In the meantime, EPA will continue to work with the States to provide guidance on significant issues that are important on the National-level and to help States coordinate efforts and to share information.

### 6.1 ON-GOING NATIONAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES

1. EPA will continue to develop guidance documents for PM-2.5 inventory development. The guidance documents will provide information on what is expected of the States, including schedules, and will direct States to data

- sources and other relevant information on how to collect and assemble activity data and to apply emission factors.
2. EPA will review the information that is already available and prioritize PM-2.5 source categories that are important on the National-scale. The prioritization will be based on expected emissions magnitude, potential for emissions control, and assessments of the credibility and reliability of existing activity data and emission factors.
  3. Based on the results of that review, EPA will begin to address those issues that are of high priority on a National-scale (e.g., evaluate and improve outdated or low quality emission factors, and address area source methods for sources of national importance).
  4. EPA will continue to coordinate with the USDA, DOI, and other organizations to refine methods for calculating emissions from fugitive dust and open burning sources.
  5. EPA will continue to support the development of National-level emissions estimates in the form of updates to the draft 1996 NET PM-2.5 inventory.
  6. EPA will continue to develop estimation tools like the ASEM, Factor Information Retrieval (FIRE) database, and SPECIATE.
  7. EPA Emissions Measurement Center will continue to assess candidate methods for a reliable source test to distinguish between filterable and condensable PM-2.5.
  8. EPA will continue to oversee and support the deployment of the PM-2.5 ambient monitoring network and to assist States in the collection and evaluation of ambient mass and speciated PM-2.5 data.

## 6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE ACTIVITIES

1. States should develop a preliminary inventory preparation plan. This should include an initial assessment of the priority issues and which of those can benefit from National-level activities and which will be more appropriately handled at the State- and regional-level. The plan should include a strategy and a schedule for collecting the appropriate information and merging that information with existing data. The plan should address all relevant spatial scale issues and temporal considerations.
2. States should become actively involved in coordinating with EPA and with one another to ensure that the results of all development efforts are applied in a timely way and that efforts are not duplicated among States. One effective opportunity is to participate in EIIP activities and use that forum to address key issues of concern.
3. States should review all available EIIP documentation on methods and approaches for estimating PM-2.5 emissions from area sources. These documents will provide useful information on preferred methods for obtaining

and managing activity data for important area sources of PM-2.5, open burning sources, residential wood combustion, etc. The document on residential wood is available and others are near completion.

4. States should review the existing inventory data, emission factors in AP-42 and supplements to AP-42, and all ambient monitoring data as they become available, to develop an understanding of the type and scope of the problems that affect them.
5. States should begin to identify local sources of activity data for area source and point source categories that can be used to replace National-level default values that will be provided in the ASEM. This activity should include plans for conducting surveys to specify local activity rates, timing of significant fire events, and other significant features related to source strength for appropriate categories. Guidance on conducting surveys for several biomass burning categories is included in EIIP documents.
6. States should begin coordinating with other nearby States to develop cooperative agreements for sharing the burden of data collection and in developing regional plans to address PM-2.5 issues. States should contact representatives from GCVTC States and other existing multi-State cooperative organizations to get advice on and to facilitate that type of cooperation.
7. States are encouraged to become active in the EIIP process to make contacts, identify joint projects, and to share information.
8. States will need to develop a list of priorities that are of importance in their local areas and complete decision making processes on how best to address those priorities and how to commit resources to maximize their understanding of the processes that result in high PM-2.5 concentrations. The list of priorities for any particular area should consider the EPA list of national priorities and focus on those issues that will not be covered by the national effort.
9. States should begin to review existing approaches for source apportionment and other models that are useful to discriminate the relative contributions of various sources to observed PM-2.5 concentrations.
10. States should review policy guidance on prescribed burning and the application of smoke management plans and the relationship of those activities to PM-2.5 planning. States should begin a dialog with Federal Land Managers (FLM) who have familiarity with the policy and information on how fires are managed in terms of acres burned and timing of fires in each local area.